

## Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested. Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 9, 10, 26, 27, 29 and 30 are pending in the application, with claims 9, 26, 27 and 29 being the independent claims. Claims 1-8, 11-25, 28 and 31-40 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter therein. Claims 26 and 27 are sought to be amended. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

### ***Rejection of Claims 1-8***

In the Office Action dated March 17, 2008 (“Office Action”), claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,307,837 to Ichikawa *et al.* (“Ichikawa”). (Office Action, p. 2.) Further, claims 3, 6 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ichikawa in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,188,898 to Phillips. (Office Action, p. 4.) Without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein, and to speed issuance of a patent, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-8, thereby rendering the rejection moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-8 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

### ***Rejection of Claim 26***

Claim 26 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,842,777 to Tuli. (Office Action, p. 3.) However, the Office Action indicated that dependent claim is 28 allowable. Therefore, to speed issuance of a patent, Applicants have incorporated the features of cancelled dependent claim 28 into

independent claim 26. Independent claim 26 is therefore allowable and Applicants request that the rejection of claim 26 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

The Office Action indicated that claims 9, 10, 29 and 30 are allowable. (Office Action, p. 5.) Further, the Office Action objected to dependent claims 27 and 28 stating that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to incorporate the limitations of the base claim. (Id.) Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter and have accordingly amended independent claim 26 to incorporate the features of cancelled dependent claim 28, and have amended claim 27 to incorporate the features of independent claim 26. Applicants therefore request that the objections to claims 27 and 28 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

***Conclusion***

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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